the offer documents did inform investors that the Company will continue to have a monopoly on the provision of Basic International Telephone Services in India until atleast March, 2004. However, usual disclaimers have been provided in these documents.

(c) Yes, Sir, ISPs can enter into agreement with submarine cable companies for providing data services. They have also been permitted to establish and operate their own gateways for data services only, subject to various clearances, through satellite or submarine cable media.

CBI Enquiry in awarding the Contract to M/S ITI Lucent Technologies Combine by MTNL

1625. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered CBI probe into the multi-crore Mobile phone equipment contract awarded by MTNL to ITI Lucent Technologies Combine;

(b) if so, whether the top officials of MTNL have favoured Lucent Technologies in the tendering process and ignored other bidders; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Non-Disposal of work by Department of Communications in Palghar Tehsil, Maharashtra

†1626. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the customers from Tehsil Palghar, District Thane in Maharashtra have moved to the court after getting aggrived due to non-disposal of work in time by the Department of Communications;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the factual position thereof?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.